

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 10, 2023**

Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.

-- Isaiah 40:4



**Daily Mass**

**Week of December 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>**

Monday: 8:00 Ray Wilson Van Deusen+  
 Tuesday: 8:00 Margaret Dougherty+  
 Wednesday: 8:00 Florence A Strong+  
 Thursday: 8:00 Angela McCormick+  
 Friday: 8:00 Elizabeth Boothman+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Marian Flandrick, Mike Abell, Sunny Ray, Tara Singh, Kerrie Roye, Mark Lutz, Michael Carter, Rufus Smith, Peggy Delson-Rini, Frank Rini, Pamela M., Rita Jurin, Julia and Cecilia Uyeda.

Weekly Collection	December 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Plate	\$10,134.00
Rainy Day Fund	\$1,049.00

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Here we are, just days away from our celebration of the birth of Christ, whom we hail as the Prince of Peace, whose birth is acclaimed by angels as bringing peace on earth. And we read the words of the prophet Isaiah: in the day of Christ's coming.

They shall beat their swords into plowshares; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.

Really? Can we take these words seriously today? War has been raging in Ukraine for two years; in a matter of weeks Palestinian Hamas massacred over a thousand innocent Israelis and in return the Israelis have thus far killed over 14,000 Palestinians, turned Gaza into a mass of rubble, with no end in sight.

Is the word of God false, was the prophet delusional? Or must we admit that the will of God for peace among nations has been overturned by human malice? It is easy to despair, to turn in contempt from God's plan for us.

But let the last words of today's first reading be burned into our minds and hearts: *O house of Jacob, come -- let us walk in the light of the Lord.*

These are the words of those who will not be overcome by the darkness of the present time, but light the candle of hope as we did at the beginning of our Eucharist today. Keep that hope burning always.

*Fr. Basil*

**Christmas Services**

**Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
 5:00 p.m. – Family Mass  
 9:00 p.m. – Christmas Carols  
 9:30 p.m. – Mass

**Christmas Day – Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**  
 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Mass

**Feast of the Holy Family – December 30<sup>th</sup>**  
 5:00 p.m. – Mass  
 Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>  
 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

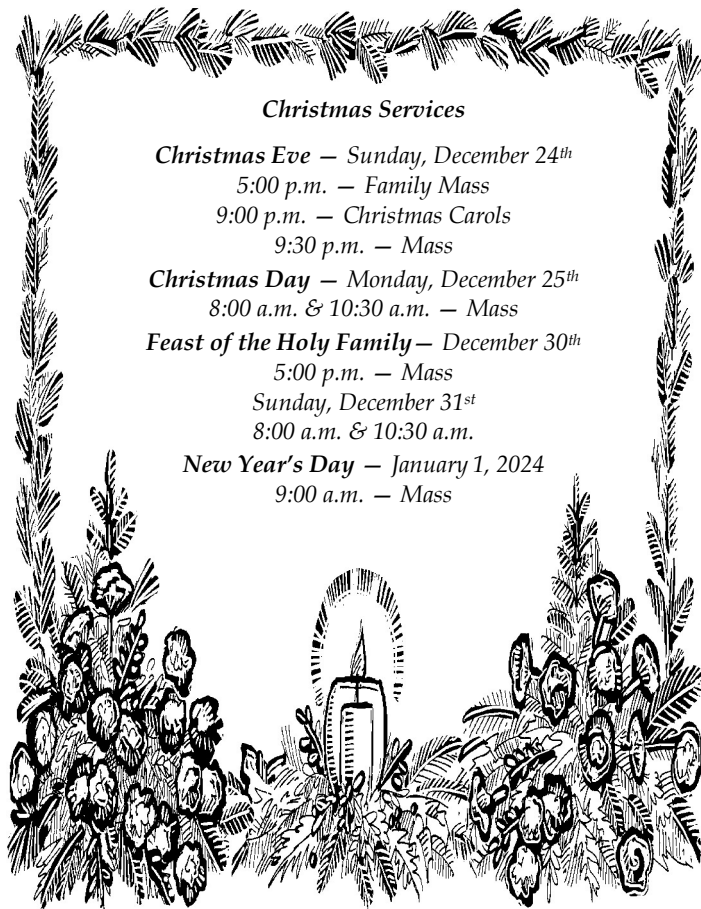
**New Year's Day – January 1, 2024**  
 9:00 a.m. – Mass

December 8<sup>th</sup> will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Father Bill O'Donnell, long-time pastor of St. Joseph the Worker in Berkeley.

On December 9<sup>th</sup> there was a showing of the film of Fr. Bill speaking with Martin Sheen about his ministry and social activism.

On December 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. there will be a memorial liturgy at St. Joseph the Worker. All are welcome!

.....  
 • **Join Us! Everyone is Welcome!** •  
 • **As We Await The Coming Of Emmanuel...** •  
 • **\*\*Advent Reconciliation Service** -- Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Church. •  
 • **\*\*Taize & Adoration Service** -- Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. •  
 • .....  
 • .....  
 • .....  
 • .....





**Christmas Giving Tree!**

'Tis the Season...the Giving Tree is back! Please consider selecting an ornament or two off the tree. Ornaments are available on the Giving Tree in the Gibson. There is an ornament customized for each member of the 50 families at The Oakland Catholic Worker and for those from St. Mary's Center. **These must all be in by Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.** Please purchase one \$25.00 gift card per ornament from either Target or Walmart. You can purchase the gift cards yourself, attach them to the ornament and return them either by giving them to a member of the Living Faith Ministry in the Gibson Center after all the Masses each weekend or dropping them off at the Parish Office during the week. If you prefer, you can write a check to Corpus Christi Church or donate online through your bank and the cards will be purchased for you. *Please write or type "Giving Tree" in the memo line for either of these options.* As Fr. Leo reminds us often, we are our brother's and sister's keeper. Let's ensure that these families have a joy-filled Christmas!

**Boy Scout Tree Lot!**

The Boy Scout Christmas Tree Lot is now open! Piedmont Scouts, including Corpus Christi's Troop 6, are again operating a Christmas Tree lot located at Coaches Field, 890 Moraga Avenue in Piedmont. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., until all the trees are sold. A great selection of Silvertips, Noble and Douglas firs, as well as wreaths, garlands, mistletoe and tree stands are available. The Scouts and volunteers can help you select a tree and load in onto your vehicle. Home delivery is also available for an additional fee. You can also shop online at: [www.scouttreelot.org](http://www.scouttreelot.org) and pre-order a tree, then schedule a delivery or come to the lot for pick-up. This is the Scouts biggest fund raiser of the year. The Boy Scouts wish the community of Corpus Christi a Merry Christmas and joyous holiday season!



**An Evening of Caroling!**

Christmas Caroling returns! We'll be singing all the Yuletide favorites next Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4:30 p.m. We will sing for roughly an hour, assuming that Fr. Leo finds our efforts of, *The Twelve Days of Christmas* satisfactory! Consider bringing a dozen cookies to share with your fellow singers and/or an unwrapped toy for Oakland's disadvantaged kids. The need for toys is especially acute this year. Flyers are available at the entrances to the Church. Please come join us!

**Please Note!**

The Living Our Faith Ministry meeting, scheduled for Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, has been cancelled. The date for the January meeting has not yet been set, but will be announced soon!

**Readings For The Week  
December 11<sup>th</sup> -- 16<sup>th</sup>**

- Monday: First Reading Isaiah 35:1-10;  
Psalm 85;  
Gospel Luke 5:17-26
- Tuesday: First Reading Zechariah 2:14-17;  
Psalm Judith 13:18bcde, 19;  
Gospel Luke 1:26-38
- Wednesday: First Reading Isaiah 40:25-31;  
Psalm 103;  
Gospel Matthew 11:28-30
- Thursday: First Reading Isaiah 41:13-20;  
Psalm 145;  
Gospel Matthew 11:11-15
- Friday: First Reading Isaiah 48:17-19;  
Psalm 1;  
Gospel Matthew 11:16-19
- Saturday: First Reading Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11;  
Psalm 80;  
Gospel Matthew 17:9a, 10-13



**Religious Retirement Collection!**

This weekend, December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, is the annual Retirement Fund for Religious appeal. Thank You for caring!

**2024-2025 Corpus Christi School Applications!**

Are you thinking about joining our School community of Corpus Christi? Do you know someone who is looking for a new school? Tell your friends and neighbors that our application for the 2024-2025 School Year is now available on our School website! The application deadline for submission is Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, so encourage them to apply now. Thanks for helping us spread the word!



**Today's Readings!**

- First Reading** -- The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).
- Psalm** -- Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).
- Second Reading** -- Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).
- Gospel** -- I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

